

COMPOSITION SERIES IN GROUPS AND THE STRUCTURE OF SLIM SEMIMODULAR LATTICES

GÁBOR CZÉDLI AND E. TAMÁS SCHMIDT

ABSTRACT. Let \vec{H} and \vec{K} be finite composition series of a group G . The intersections $H_i \cap K_j$ of their members form a lattice $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})$ under set inclusion. Improving the Jordan-Hölder theorem, G. Grätzer, J. B. Nation and the present authors have recently shown that \vec{H} and \vec{K} determine a unique permutation π such that, for all i , the i -th factor of \vec{H} is “down-and-up projective” to the $\pi(i)$ -th factor of \vec{K} . In this paper we prove that π determines the lattice $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})$. More generally, we describe slim semimodular lattices, up to isomorphism, by permutations, up to an equivalence relation called “sectionally inverse or equal”. As a consequence, we prove that the abstract class of all $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})$ coincides with the class of duals of all slim semimodular lattices.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Composition series and lattices. Let $\vec{H}: \{1\} = H_0 \triangleleft H_1 \triangleleft \cdots \triangleleft H_n = G$ and $\vec{K}: \{1\} = K_0 \triangleleft K_1 \triangleleft \cdots \triangleleft K_n = G$ be composition series of a group G . Denote $\{H_i \cap K_j : i, j \in \{0, \dots, n\}\}$ by $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})$. Clearly,

$$\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K}) = (\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K}); \subseteq)$$

is a lattice, not just an order. (Orders are also called posets, that is, partially ordered sets.) As usual, the relation “subnormal subgroup” is the transitive closure of the relation “normal subgroup”. For subnormal subgroups $A \triangleleft B$ and $C \triangleleft D$ of G , the quotient B/A will be called *subnormally down-and-up projective* to D/C , if there are subnormal subgroups $X \triangleleft Y$ of G such that

$$(1.1) \quad AY = B, \quad A \cap Y = X, \quad CY = D, \quad C \cap Y = X.$$

Clearly, $B/A \cong D/C$ in this case, because both groups are isomorphic with Y/X . Since G is of finite composition length, its subnormal subgroups form a sublattice $\text{NSub } G = (\text{NSub } G; \subseteq)$ of the lattice of all subgroups by a classical result of H. Wielandt [27]; see also R. Schmidt [24, Theorem 1.1.5] and the remark after its proof, or M. Stern [26, p. 302].

It is not hard to see that $\text{NSub } G$ is *dually semimodular* (also called *lower semimodular*); see [24, Theorem 2.1.8], or the proof of [26, Theorem 8.3.3], or the proof of J. B. Nation [23, Theorem 9.8]. Since this property depends only on the meet operation and $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})$ is a meet-semilattice of $\text{NSub } G$, we conclude that $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})$

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is a dually semimodular lattice. Note, however, that $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})$ is *not* a sublattice of $\text{NSub } G$ in general; this is witnessed by the eight-element elementary 2-group $(\mathbb{Z}_2; +)^3$.

A lattice is said to be *dually slim* if it is finite and it has no three pairwise incomparable meet-irreducible elements. Since each meet-irreducible element of $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})$ occurs in \vec{H} or \vec{K} , it follows that $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})$ is a *dually slim* lattice.

We proved the following result in [8].

Theorem 1.1. *There exists a unique permutation π of the set $\{1, \dots, n\}$ such that H_i/H_{i-1} is subnormally down-and-up projective to $K_{\pi(i)}/K_{\pi(i)-1}$, for $i = 1, \dots, n$.*

This permutation will be described later in Remark 2.8. Note that, as opposed to π , the subnormal subgroups X and Y occurring in (1.1) are not unique, in general, and they need not belong to $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})$. Note also that even the statement on the *existence* of π , due to G. Grätzer and J. B. Nation [18], strengthens the classical Jordan-Hölder Theorem, see C. Jordan [21] and O. Hölder [20].

One of our goals is to show that π determines the lattice $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})$, see Corollary 3.4. We will also show that the lattices of the form $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})$ are characterized as duals of slim semimodular lattices, see Corollary 3.5. These results follow from our main result, which is purely lattice theoretic.

1.2. Slim semimodular lattices and matrices. A *slim lattice* is a finite lattice M such that $\text{Ji}_0 M$, the order of its join-irreducible elements (including 0), contains no three-element antichain. This concept is due to G. Grätzer and E. Knapp [14]. By R. P. Dilworth [11], a finite lattice M is slim iff $\text{Ji}_0 M$ is the union of two chains.

By [8, Lemma 6], slim lattices are *planar*. So they are easy objects to understand. Slim semimodular lattices come up in proving Theorem 1.1 and also in the finite congruence lattice representation problem; see, for example, G. Czédli [4], G. Grätzer and E. Knapp [16] and [17], and E. T. Schmidt [25]. Several ways of describing slim semimodular lattices were developed. Two visual (recursive) methods of constructing slim semimodular lattices were given in [9]. Furthermore, these lattices were characterized by matrices in [3]. Based on this matrix characterization, G. Czédli, L. Ozsvárt and B. Udvari [5] succeeded in calculating the number $\sharp(h)$ of (isomorphism classes) of slim semimodular lattices of a given length h ; the value of $\sharp(h)$ has been computed up to $h = 100$.

The matrices in [3] correspond to bijective partial maps. Although they yield an optimal description in some sense, their definition is a bit complicated. Our goal is to describe slim semimodular lattices by (totally defined) bijective maps; namely, by permutations. The fact that three different ideas lead to the same permutations indicate that these permutations are natural objects. As opposed to the matrices, our permutations say something interesting of the magnitude of $\sharp(h)$; indeed, our main theorem trivially yields that $h!$ is an upper bound for $\sharp(h)$. Furthermore, the present approach yields Corollaries 3.4 and 3.5, while the matrix approach does not.

1.3. Planar diagrams. To avoid ambiguity, we have to distinguish between planar lattices and their diagrams. Let M^* be a planar diagram of a finite (planar) lattice M . For $u \leq v \in M$, let $[u, v]^*$ denote the unique diagram of the interval $[u, v]$ determined by M^* . The edges of M^* divide the plane into regions; the minimal regions are called *cells*. By a *covering square* we mean a four-element cover-preserving

sublattice of length two. Cells that are covering squares are called *4-cells*. The *left boundary chain*, the *right boundary chain* and the *boundary* of M^* are denoted by $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(M^*)$, $\text{BC}_{\text{right}}(M^*)$ and $\text{Bnd}(M^*) = \text{BC}_{\text{left}}(M^*) \cup \text{BC}_{\text{right}}(M^*)$, respectively.

Next, let M^\vee also be a planar diagram of M . Then M^* and M^\vee are called *boundarily similar diagrams* of M , if $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(M^*) = \text{BC}_{\text{left}}(M^\vee)$ and $\text{BC}_{\text{right}}(M^*) = \text{BC}_{\text{right}}(M^\vee)$. (Notice that if two diagrams are similar in the sense of D. Kelly and I. Rival [22], then they are boundarily similar, but not conversely.) More generally, if M_i^* is a planar diagram of M_i , then M_1^* is boundarily similar to M_2^* if there is a lattice isomorphism $\gamma: M_1 \rightarrow M_2$ such that $\gamma(\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(M_1^*)) = \text{BC}_{\text{left}}(M_2^*)$ and $\gamma(\text{BC}_{\text{right}}(M_1^*)) = \text{BC}_{\text{right}}(M_2^*)$. We will consider diagrams only up to boundary similarity.

Let $\text{Dgr } M$ denote the *set of all planar diagrams* of M . Then $\text{Dgr } M$ is a finite set since boundarily similar diagrams are considered equal. Sometimes we need a notation, D^{lat} , which is the lattice D^{lat} from its diagram D . Note that $M = (M^*)^{\text{lat}}$ for every planar lattice M and any $M^* \in \text{Dgr } M$.

Let L be a slim semimodular lattice of length n . Although it is L we want to characterize by permutations, in this section, we work with a fixed diagram L^* of L . The elements of $\text{Bnd}(L^*)$ will be denoted as follows:

$$(1.2) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{BC}_{\text{left}}(L^*) &= \{0 = c_0 \prec c_1 \prec \cdots \prec c_n = 1\}, \\ \text{BC}_{\text{right}}(L^*) &= \{0 = d_0 \prec d_1 \prec \cdots \prec d_n = 1\}. \end{aligned}$$

An element of L is called a *narrows* if it is comparable with all elements of L . This terminology is from G. Grätzer and R. W. Quackenbush [19]; however, as opposed to [19], we define 0 and 1 as narrows of L . The set of narrows is denoted by $\text{Nar}(L)$. The elements of $\text{Nar}(L) \setminus \{0, 1\}$ are called *nontrivial narrows* of L . For $L^* \in \text{Dgr } L$, we define $\text{Nar}(L^*) := \text{BC}_{\text{left}}(L^*) \cap \text{BC}_{\text{right}}(L^*)$; clearly, $\text{Nar}(L^*) = \text{Nar}(L)$. Note that $\text{Nar}(L)$ is a chain. A finite lattice M is called (*glued sum*) *indecomposable* if $|\text{Nar}(M)| = 1$ or $2 = |\text{Nar}(M)| < |M|$.

The set of all meet-irreducible elements (including 1) is denoted by $\text{Mi}_1 M$. Let $\text{Ji } M = \text{Ji}_0 M \setminus \{0\}$ and $\text{Mi } M = \text{Mi}_1 M \setminus \{1\}$. [9, Lemma 7] asserts that $\text{Bnd}(L^*)$ is the same for all $L^* \in \text{Dgr } L$. Hence we can define $\text{Bnd}(L)$ as $\text{Bnd}(L^*)$, where $L^* \in \text{Dgr } L$. By G. Grätzer and E. Knapp [14, Lemma 4],

$$(1.3) \quad \text{every element of } L \text{ is covered by at most two elements.}$$

By [14, Lemma 8], L is a so-called *4-cell lattice*; this means that all cells of every $L^* \in \text{Dgr } L$ are 4-cells. Furthermore, by [9, Lemma 6] and [8, Lemma 7]

$$(1.4) \quad \text{Ji}_0 L \subseteq \text{Bnd}(L),$$

$$(1.5) \quad \text{the 4-cells of } L^* \text{ and the covering squares of } L \text{ are the same.}$$

As usual, the set of permutations acting on $\{1, \dots, n\}$ is denoted by S_n . The ordering $1 < \cdots < n$ of the underlying set will be important.

2. THREE WAYS TO ASSOCIATE A PERMUTATION WITH A PLANAR DIAGRAM

Definition 2.1. Let L be a slim semimodular lattice. For a diagram $L^* \in \text{Dgr } L$, we use the notation introduced in (1.2). We associate a permutation $\pi_1 \in S_n$ with L^* as follows; see Figure 1 for an illustration. Let $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. Take the prime interval $I_0 := [c_{i-1}, c_i]$ on the left boundary. If I_t is defined and it is on the left boundary of a 4-cell, then let I_{t+1} be the opposite edge of this 4-cell. Otherwise, I_{t+1}

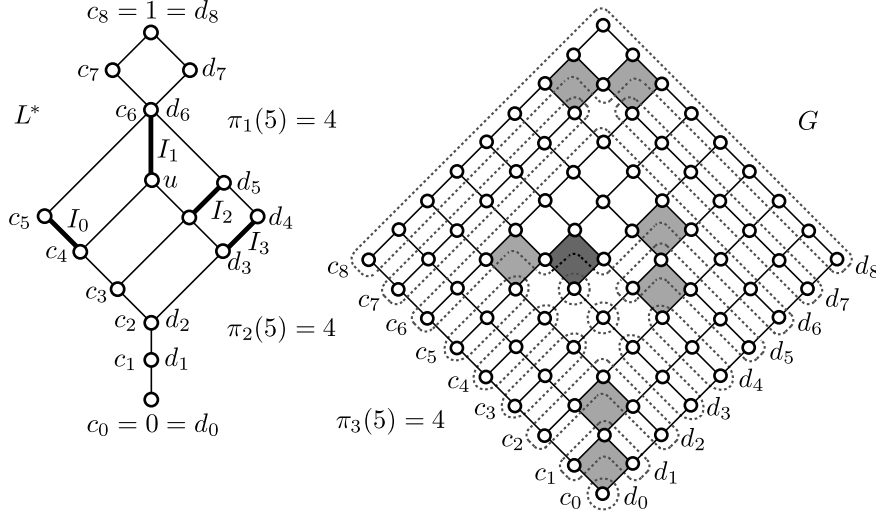


FIGURE 1. Three ways to define a permutation

is undefined. The sequence I_0, I_1, \dots, I_m of all the defined I_t -s is called a *trajectory*. It goes from left to right, and it stops at the right boundary. Let $I_m = [d_{j-1}, d_j]$. We define $\pi_1(i) := j$. For L^* on the left of Figure 1, $i = 5$, and $m = 3$, the trajectory in question consists of the thick edges.

We consider L^* up to boundary similarity, and only $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(L^*)$ and $\text{BC}_{\text{right}}(L^*)$ are fixed. Hence it is not so clear how the trajectory goes in the “unknown interior” of L^* . However, based on (1.5), it was proved in [8] that π_1 is a uniquely defined map and it is a permutation. In fact, [8] proves an appropriate uniqueness result for any two maximal chains without assuming slimness.

The definition of π_1 is quite visual. The next one is less visual but conceptually simpler. As usual, $\downarrow u$ stands for $\{x \in L : x \leq u\}$, and $\uparrow u$ is defined dually.

Definition 2.2. We associate a permutation $\pi_2 \in S_n$ with L^* as follows; see Figure 1 again for an illustration. Let $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. Take a meet-irreducible element $u \in L$ such that c_i is the smallest element of $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(L^*) \setminus \downarrow u$. Let d_j be the smallest element of $\text{BC}_{\text{right}}(L^*) \setminus \downarrow u$. We define $\pi_2(i) := j$.

Lemma 2.3. π_2 is uniquely defined and belongs to S_n . Furthermore, the element u in Definition 2.2 is uniquely determined.

Proof. Let $B_i = \uparrow c_{i-1} \setminus \uparrow c_i$. It is not empty since it contains c_{i-1} . By (1.4), each element of B_i is of the form $c_s \vee d_t$, and we can clearly assume that $s = i - 1$. Since $\text{BC}_{\text{right}}(L^*)$ is a chain, we conclude that B_i is also a chain. Let u be the largest element of B_i . Obviously, $u \in \text{Mi } L$, whence u satisfies the requirements of Definition 2.2. Assume that so does v . Then $v \in B_i \cap \text{Mi } L$ and $v \leq u$. By semimodularity, $v = c_{i-1} \vee v \preceq c_i \vee v$. Clearly, $B_i \not\ni c_i \vee v \preceq u$, implying that $v = u \wedge (c_i \vee v)$. Hence $v = u$ since v is meet-irreducible. This proves the uniqueness of u in the definition. Therefore, π_2 is a uniquely defined $\{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$ map. Since π_2 depends only on the assignment of the left and right boundary chains and on the meet operation, boundarily similar diagrams of L yield the same π_2 .

Interchanging left and right in the definition, we obtain a uniquely defined map $\sigma: \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$ analogously. That is, $\sigma(j) = i$ iff there is a $u \in \text{Mi } L$ such that d_j and c_i are the smallest elements of $\text{BC}_{\text{right}}(L^*) \setminus \downarrow u$ and $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(L^*) \setminus \downarrow u$, respectively. The uniqueness of u (both in the definition of π_2 and that of σ) clearly yields that the composite maps $\pi_2 \circ \sigma$ and $\sigma \circ \pi_2$ are the identity maps. Thus, π_2 is a permutation. \square

The following corollary is evident by the second sentence of Lemma 2.3. It also follows easily from known results on convex geometry, see R. P. Dilworth [10] or K. Adaricheva, V. A. Gorbunov and V. I. Tumanov [1, Theorem 1.7.(1-2)].

Corollary 2.4. *For every slim semimodular lattice K , $|\text{Mi } K| = \text{length } K$.*

The third way of defining a permutation is more complicated than the other two. However, it will play the main role in the proof of Theorem 3.3. The prerequisites below are taken from [6] and [3].

By a *grid* we mean the direct product of two finite chains. If these chains are of the same size, then we speak of a *square grid*. If G is a square grid, then the elements of its lower left boundary and those of the lower right boundary are denoted by

$$(2.1) \quad C = \{0 = c_0 \prec c_1 \prec \dots \prec c_n\}, \quad D = \{0 = d_0 \prec d_1 \prec \dots \prec d_n\},$$

respectively, and we say that G is the square grid of length $2n$; see Figure 1 for $n = 8$. Note that each element of the grid can be written uniquely in the form $c_i \vee d_j$ where $i, j \in \{0, \dots, n\}$. For lattices M_1 and M_2 , a join-(semilattice)-homomorphism $\varphi: M_1 \rightarrow M_2$ is called *cover-preserving* if $x \prec y$ implies that $\varphi(x) \preceq \varphi(y)$, for all $x, y \in M_1$. Kernels of this sort of homomorphisms are called *cover-preserving join-congruences*.

Let M be a slim semimodular lattice, and let $u \in M$. If there is a unique 4-cell whose top, resp. bottom, is u , then it is denoted by $\text{cell}_\diamond(u)$, resp. $\text{cell}^\diamond(u)$. Take a 4-cell $B = \{0_B = a \wedge b, a, b, 1_B = a \vee b\}$ of M . Then $B = \text{cell}^\diamond(0_B) = \text{cell}^\diamond(a \wedge b)$ by (1.3), but the notation $\text{cell}_\diamond(1_B)$ is not always allowed. Consider a join-congruence α of M . We say that B is an α -forbidden 4-cell if the α -classes a/α , b/α and $(a \wedge b)/\alpha$ are pairwise distinct but either $(a \vee b)/\alpha = a/\alpha$ or $(a \vee b)/\alpha = b/\alpha$. Recall from [6] that, for any join-congruence α of M ,

$$(2.2) \quad \alpha \text{ is cover-preserving iff } M \text{ does not have an } \alpha\text{-forbidden 4-cell.}$$

If $\{a, b\} \subseteq (a \vee b)/\alpha \not\subseteq a \wedge b$, then B is called a *source cell* of α . The set of source cells of α is denoted by $\text{SC}(\alpha)$. The source cells are usually shaded grey. We are now ready to formulate

Definition 2.5. We associate a permutation $\pi_3 \in S_n$ with L^* as follows; see Figure 1 for an illustration. Let $G = \text{BC}_{\text{left}}(L^*) \times \text{BC}_{\text{right}}(L^*)$. Let us agree that $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(L^*)$ and $\text{BC}_{\text{right}}(L^*)$ are (identified with) the lower left boundary and the lower right boundary of G , respectively. Using the notation (1.2), the kernel of the join-homomorphism $\eta: G \rightarrow L$, $c_i \vee_G d_j \rightarrow c_i \vee_L d_j$, will be denoted by β_{L^*} . For $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, we define $j = \pi_3(i)$ by the property that $\text{cell}_\diamond(c_i \vee_G d_j) \in \text{SC}(\beta_{L^*})$.

Lemma 2.6. π_3 is uniquely defined and belongs to S_n .

Proof. Note that the quotient join-semilattice G/β_{L^*} is actually a lattice since it is a finite join-semilattice with 0. Note also that $G/\beta_{L^*} \cong L$ by the Homomorphism Theorem, see S. Burris and H. P. Sankappanavar [2, Thm. 6.12]. Since η acts

identically on $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(L^*)$, the β_{L^*} -classes c_i/β_{L^*} , $i = 0, \dots, n$, are pairwise distinct. We know from [6, proof of Cor. 2] that β_{L^*} is cover-preserving. (Note that we know that L is a cover-preserving join-homomorphic image of a grid also from G. Grätzer and E. Knapp [15] and M. Stern [26].) Hence we conclude that

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{aligned} c_0/\beta_{L^*} &\prec c_1/\beta_{L^*} \prec \dots \prec c_n/\beta_{L^*}, \\ d_0/\beta_{L^*} &\prec d_1/\beta_{L^*} \prec \dots \prec d_n/\beta_{L^*}. \end{aligned}$$

Taking into account that $\text{length}(G/\beta_{L^*}) = \text{length } L = n$, we obtain that

$$(2.4) \quad (c_i \vee d_n)/\beta_{L^*} = (c_n \vee d_j)/\beta_{L^*} = 1/\beta_{L^*}, \text{ for all } i, j \in \{0, \dots, n\}.$$

Consider the sequence

$$[c_{i-1} \vee d_0, c_i \vee d_0], [c_{i-1} \vee d_1, c_i \vee d_1], \dots, [c_{i-1} \vee d_n, c_i \vee d_n]$$

of prime intervals of G . By (2.4) and (2.3), the last member of this sequence is collapsed while the first one is not collapsed by β_{L^*} . Hence there is a $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that $(c_{i-1} \vee d_{j-1}, c_i \vee d_{j-1}) \notin \beta_{L^*}$ but $(c_{i-1} \vee d_j, c_i \vee d_j) \in \beta_{L^*}$. In fact, there is exactly one j since, for $t = j + 1, \dots, n$,

$$(2.5) \quad (c_{i-1} \vee d_j, c_i \vee d_j) \in \beta_{L^*} \text{ implies that } (c_{i-1} \vee d_t, c_i \vee d_t) \in \beta_{L^*}.$$

By (2.2), G has no β_{L^*} -forbidden square. Hence we conclude that $\text{cell}_\diamond(c_i \vee d_j) \in \text{SC}(\beta_{L^*})$, and this j is unique by (2.5). By the left-right symmetry, for each $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ there is exactly one $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that $\text{cell}_\diamond(c_i \vee d_j) \in \text{SC}(\beta_{L^*})$. Hence π_3 is a uniquely defined permutation on $\{1, \dots, n\}$. \square

Proposition 2.7. *Let π_1 , π_2 , and π_3 denote the permutations associated with L^* in Definitions 2.1, 2.2, and 2.5, respectively. Then $\pi_1 = \pi_2 = \pi_3$.*

For $\pi_1 = \pi_2 = \pi_3$, we use the notation $\pi = \pi_{L^*}$.

Proof of Proposition 2.7. Assume that $j = \pi_3(i)$, that is, $\text{cell}_\diamond(c_i \vee_G d_j) \in \text{SC}(\beta_{L^*})$. Let $u := c_{i-1} \vee_L d_{j-1}$ and $v := c_i \vee_L d_j$ (in L). By the definition of η and β_{L^*} , this means that

$$(2.6) \quad u \neq v = c_{i-1} \vee_L d_j = c_i \vee_L d_{j-1}.$$

Assume that $x \in L$ such that $u < x$. We know from (1.4) that x is of the form $c_s \vee_L d_t$. Since $x = u \vee_L x$, we can assume that $i - 1 \leq s$ and $j - 1 \leq t$. Hence (2.6) yields that $v \leq x$. This means that v is the only cover of u , whence $u \in \text{Mi } L$. If $c_i \leq u$, then

$$u = c_i \vee_L u = c_i \vee_L c_{i-1} \vee_L d_{j-1} = c_i \vee_L d_{j-1}$$

contradicts (2.6). Therefore, c_i is the smallest element of $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(L^*) \setminus \downarrow u$. Similarly, d_j is the smallest element of $\text{BC}_{\text{right}}(L^*) \setminus \downarrow u$. Hence $j = \pi_2(i)$. Thus, π_2 equals π_3 .

Next, assume that $j = \pi_1(i)$. Consider the trajectory I_0, \dots, I_m as in Definition 2.1. For $t = 0, \dots, m$, let x_t and y_t denote the bottom and the top of I_t , respectively. That is, $I_t = [x_t, y_t]$. By [8, Lemmas 11 and 12], there is a $k \in \{0, \dots, m\}$ such that

$$(2.7) \quad y_k = c_i \vee x_k, \quad c_{i-1} = c_i \wedge x_k, \quad y_k = d_j \vee x_k, \quad d_{j-1} = d_j \wedge x_k.$$

We claim that x_k is meet-irreducible. If $m = 0$, then $[c_{i-1}, c_i] = [d_{i-1}, d_i] = [x_k, y_k] \subseteq \text{Nar}(L)$, whence $x_k \in \text{Mi } L$. Hence we can assume that $m \geq 1$. Observe that y_k is join-reducible by (2.7). If $k \in \{0, m\}$, then I_k is on the boundary of L , and the join-reducibility of y_k together with [9, Lemma 4] yields that $x_k \in \text{Mi } L$.

Hence we can assume that $k \in \{1, \dots, m-1\}$. Then, by (1.5), we have two adjacent 4-cells: $B' = \{x_{k-1}, y_{k-1}, x_k, y_k\}$ and $B'' = \{x_k, y_k, x_{k+1}, y_{k+1}\}$. Suppose that x_k is meet-reducible. Then it has a cover v that is distinct from y_k . Clearly, $v \notin \downarrow y_k$. In the diagram L^* , let $X_a = \text{BC}_{\text{left}}(\downarrow y_k)$ and $X_b = \text{BC}_{\text{right}}(\downarrow y_k)$. Fix a maximal chain X_0 in $\uparrow y_k$. Then $Y_a := X_a \cup X_0$ and $Y_b := X_b \cup X_0$ are maximal chains of L^* . For each maximal chain Y and each $y \in Y$, exactly one of the following three possibilities holds: y is strictly on the left of Y , or y is strictly on the right of Y , or $y \in Y$.

Since $v \notin Y_a \cup Y_b$, v is either strictly on the left or strictly on the right of Y_a , and the same holds for Y_b . If v is both strictly on the right of Y_a and strictly on the left of Y_b , then $v \in \downarrow y_k$ is a contradiction. Hence, by the left-right symmetry, we can assume that v is strictly on the right of Y_b . However, x_k is *strictly* on the left of Y_b since B' and B'' are adjacent 4-cells. Therefore, see D. Kelly and I. Rival [22, Lemma 1.2], there is a $w \in Y_b$ such that $x_k < w < v$. This contradicts that $x_k \prec v$, proving that x_k is meet-irreducible.

Finally, (2.7) implies that c_i and d_j are the smallest elements of $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(L^*) \setminus \downarrow x_k$ and $\text{BC}_{\text{right}}(L^*) \setminus \downarrow x_k$, respectively. Hence $j = \pi_2(i)$, proving that π_1 equals π_2 . \square

The dual $(\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K}); \supseteq)$ of the lattice $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K}) = (\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K}); \subseteq)$ will be denoted by $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})^\delta$. By [8], or by Lemma 4.6(iii), there is a unique diagram $(\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})^\delta)^\vee$ in $\text{Diag}(\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})^\delta)$ whose left boundary chain and right boundary chain are \vec{H} and \vec{K} , respectively. Since $\pi = \pi_1$, the following remark is evident by [8].

Remark 2.8. The unique permutation that establishes a down-and-up projective matching between the composition series \vec{H} and \vec{K} mentioned in the Introduction is the permutation associated with $(\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})^\delta)^\vee$.

3. THE MAIN RESULT

Assume that L is a slim semimodular lattice and $L^* \in \text{Dgr } L$. Let $u \leq v$ be narrows. If we reflect $[u, v]^*$ vertically while keeping the rest of the diagram L^* unchanged, we obtain, as a rule, another planar diagram of L that determines a different permutation. In particular, if $u = 0$ and $v = 1$, then we obtain the permutation π^{-1} . Hence we cannot associate a single well-defined partition with an *abstract* slim semimodular lattice L , in general. That is why we need the following concept.

Let $\sigma \in S_n$, and let $I = [u, v] = \{u, \dots, v\}$ be an interval of the chain $\{1 < \dots < n\}$. If $\sigma(i) \in I$ holds for all $i \in I$, then we say that I is *closed* with respect to σ . The empty subset is also called closed. If each of $\{1, \dots, u-1\}$, I and $\{v+1, \dots, n\}$ is closed with respect to σ and $I \neq \emptyset$, then I is called a *section* of σ . Sections that are minimal with respect to set inclusion are called *segments* of σ . For brevity, sections and segments of σ are often called σ -sections and σ -segments. Let $\text{Seg}(\sigma)$ denote the *set of all σ -segments*. We will prove soon that $\text{Seg}(\sigma)$ is a partition on $\{1, \dots, n\}$. For $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, the unique segment that contains i is denoted by $\text{Seg}(\sigma, i)$. For example, if

$$(3.1) \quad \sigma = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 \\ 1 & 7 & 4 & 5 & 3 & 6 & 2 & 9 & 8 \end{pmatrix} = (27)(345)(89),$$

then $\text{Seg}(\sigma) = \{\{1\}, \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}, \{8, 9\}\}$ and $\text{Seg}(\sigma, 8) = \{8, 9\}$. The restriction of σ to a subset I of $\{1, \dots, n\}$ will be denoted by $\sigma|_I$.

Next, we define a binary relation on S_n . Let $\sigma, \mu \in S_n$; we say that σ and μ are *sectionally inverse or equal*, in notation $(\sigma, \mu) \in \boldsymbol{\varrho}_e^i$, if $\text{Seg}(\sigma) = \text{Seg}(\mu)$ and, for all $I \in \text{Seg}(\sigma)$, $\mu|_I \in \{\sigma|_I, (\sigma|_I)^{-1}\}$. (The letters $\boldsymbol{\varrho}$, i and e in the notation $\boldsymbol{\varrho}_e^i$ come from “relation”, “inverse”, and “equal”, respectively.) To shed more light on these concepts, we present an easy lemma.

Lemma 3.1. *Let $\sigma, \mu \in S_n$.*

- (i) $\text{Seg}(\sigma)$ is a partition on $\{1, \dots, n\}$.
- (ii) The intersection of any two σ -sections is either a σ -section, or empty.
- (iii) σ -sections are the same as (non-empty) intervals that are unions of σ -segments.
- (iv) $(\sigma, \mu) \in \boldsymbol{\varrho}_e^i$ if and only if there are pairwise disjoint σ -sections J_1, \dots, J_t such that $J_1 \cup \dots \cup J_t = \{1, \dots, n\}$ and, for $i = 1, \dots, t$, $\mu|_{J_i} \in \{\sigma|_{J_i}, (\sigma|_{J_i})^{-1}\}$.
- (v) $\boldsymbol{\varrho}_e^i$ is an equivalence relation on S_n .

For $\sigma \in S_n$, the $\boldsymbol{\varrho}_e^i$ -class of σ will be denoted by $\sigma/\boldsymbol{\varrho}_e^i$. For example, if σ is the permutation given in (3.1), then $\sigma/\boldsymbol{\varrho}_e^i = \{\sigma, \sigma^{-1}\}$. Another example: if $n = 7$, then $(123)(567)/\boldsymbol{\varrho}_e^i = \{(123)(567), (132)(567), (123)(576), (132)(576)\}$. The quotient set $\{\sigma/\boldsymbol{\varrho}_e^i : \sigma \in S_n\}$ will of course be denoted by $S_n/\boldsymbol{\varrho}_e^i$.

The class of slim semimodular lattices of length n will be denoted by $\text{SlimSem}(n)$. Let $\boldsymbol{\varrho}_\simeq$ denote isomorphism as a binary relation. For a lattice L , let $\mathbf{I}(L)$ be the class of lattices isomorphic to L . The quotient set

$$\text{SlimSem}^\simeq(n) := \text{SlimSem}(n)/\boldsymbol{\varrho}_\simeq = \{\mathbf{I}(L) : L \in \text{SlimSem}(n)\}$$

is called the *set of isomorphism classes* of slim semimodular lattices of length n . Our goal is to establish a bijective correspondence between $\text{SlimSem}^\simeq(n)$ and $S_n/\boldsymbol{\varrho}_e^i$. This way, since we are interested in lattices only up to isomorphism, slim semimodular lattices will be described by permutations.

To accomplish our goal, we define four maps. First of all, we need some notation. Consider the square grid G , see (2.1). When there is no danger of confusion, we will simply write \vee and \wedge instead of \vee_G and \wedge_G . For $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ and $u = c_i \vee d_j$, let $\boldsymbol{\vartheta}(u) = \boldsymbol{\vartheta}(c_i \vee d_j)$ denote the smallest join-congruence of G that collapses $\{c_{i-1} \vee d_j, c_i \vee d_{j-1}, c_i \vee d_j\}$. Let

$$\text{SlimSem}(n)^* := \bigcup_{L \in \text{SlimSem}(n)} \text{Dgr } L.$$

(It is a *finite* set since $\text{SlimSem}^\simeq(n)$ is finite.) Our maps are defined as follows.

Definition 3.2. Let $n \in \mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, \dots\}$.

- (i) For $\pi \in S_n$, let $\boldsymbol{\beta}_\pi := \bigvee_{i=1}^n \boldsymbol{\vartheta}(c_i \vee d_{\pi(i)})$, in the congruence lattice of $(G; \vee)$. Then $G/\boldsymbol{\beta}_\pi$ is a lattice (not just a join-semilattice). By the *canonical diagram* of $G/\boldsymbol{\beta}_\pi$ we mean its planar diagram $(G/\boldsymbol{\beta}_\pi)^\diamond$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{BC}_{\text{left}}((G/\boldsymbol{\beta}_\pi)^\diamond) &= \{c_i/\boldsymbol{\beta}_\pi : 0 \leq i \leq n\}, \\ \text{BC}_{\text{right}}((G/\boldsymbol{\beta}_\pi)^\diamond) &= \{d_i/\boldsymbol{\beta}_\pi : 0 \leq i \leq n\}. \end{aligned}$$

(We will soon show that this makes sense.) Let $\varphi_0(\pi) = (G/\boldsymbol{\beta}_\pi)^\diamond$. This defines a map $\varphi_0 : S_n \rightarrow \text{SlimSem}(n)^*$.

- (ii) We define a map $\psi_0 : \text{SlimSem}(n)^* \rightarrow S_n$, $L^* \mapsto \pi_{L^*}$.
- (iii) Let $\varphi : S_n/\boldsymbol{\varrho}_e^i \rightarrow \text{SlimSem}^\simeq(n)$, $\pi/\boldsymbol{\varrho}_e^i \mapsto \mathbf{I}((\varphi_0(\pi))^{\text{lat}})$.

(iv) Let $\psi: \text{SlimSem}^\cong(n) \rightarrow S_n/\mathfrak{L}_e^i, \mathbf{I}(L) \mapsto \psi_0(L^*)/\mathfrak{L}_e^i = \pi_{L^*}/\mathfrak{L}_e^i$, where L^* denotes an arbitrarily chosen planar diagram of L .

Since $|S_0| = |S_0/\mathfrak{L}_e^i| = |\text{SlimSem}(0)^*| = |\text{SlimSem}^\cong(0)| = 1$, the meaning of these maps for $n = 0$ is obvious.

We are now in the position of formulating our main result.

Theorem 3.3. *Slim semimodular lattices, up to isomorphism, are characterized by permutations, up to the equivalence relation “sectionally inverse or equal”. More exactly, φ_0 , φ , ψ_0 and ψ are well-defined maps, they are bijections, $\psi_0 = \varphi_0^{-1}$, and $\psi = \varphi^{-1}$.*

The case $n = 0$ is trivial. In what follows, we always assume that $n \in \mathbb{N}$. The following result is an evident consequence of Theorem 3.3, Remark 2.8, and the fact that each lattice is determined by any diagram of its dual lattice.

Corollary 3.4. *π from Theorem 1.1 determines the lattice $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})$, that is $(\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K}); \subseteq)$, up to lattice isomorphism.*

Theorem 3.3 will make the proof of the next corollary quite easy.

Corollary 3.5. *For each slim semimodular lattice L , there exist a finite cyclic group G and composition series \vec{H} and \vec{K} of G such that L is isomorphic to the lattice $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})^\delta$. Conversely, for all groups G with finite composition length and for any composition series \vec{H} and \vec{K} of G , $\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})^\delta$ is a slim semimodular lattice.*

Remark 3.6. Associated with a permutation $\pi \in S_n$, it is convenient to consider the *grid matrix* $A(\pi) := (G; \pi^\bullet)$ of π , where $\pi^\bullet := \{\text{cell}_\diamond(c_i \vee_G d_{\pi(i)}) : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. That is, $A(\pi)$ consists of the grid together with n 4-cells determined by π . In Figure 1, the elements of π^\bullet are shaded grey. We can use grid matrices to clarify the definition of φ_0 as follows. For a 4-cell B of G , let $\mathfrak{I}(B)$ denote $\mathfrak{I}(1_B)$. Equivalently, $\mathfrak{I}(B)$ is the smallest join-congruence of G that collapses the upper edges of B . Then $\beta_\pi = \bigvee_{B \in \pi^\bullet} \mathfrak{I}(B)$ and $\varphi_0(\pi) = (G/\beta_\pi)^\diamond$.

Remark 3.7. We can use π^\bullet also in connection with Definition 2.5. Indeed, for $L^* \in \text{SlimSem}(n)^*$, $\pi_{L^*} = \pi_3$ is defined by the property $\pi_{L^*}^\bullet = \text{SC}(\beta_{L^*})$.

4. AUXILIARY LEMMAS AND THE PROOF OF THE MAIN RESULT

Proof of Lemma 3.1. For an interval $J = \{u, \dots, v\}$ of $\{1, \dots, n\}$, we define

$$(4.1) \quad J_l = \{1, \dots, u-1\} \text{ and } J_r = \{v+1, \dots, n\}.$$

Assume that I and I' are sections of σ . Then the sets I, I_l, I_r, I', I'_l and I'_r are σ -closed. Let $J = I \cap I'$, and suppose that it is non-empty. Since $J_l \in \{I_l, I'_l\}$ and $J_r \in \{I_r, I'_r\}$, the sets J, J_l and J_r are σ -closed. Hence J is a section of σ , proving part (ii).

To prove (i), let $a \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. By part (ii), there is a minimal σ -section $I = \{u, \dots, v\}$ such that $a \in I$. Suppose that I is not a σ -segment. Then there is a σ -segment $J = \{u', \dots, v'\}$ such that $a \notin J \subset I$. We know that $u \leq a \leq v$, but $a < u'$ or $v' < a$. We can assume that $a < u'$ since the case $v' < a$ can be treated similarly. Let $K = \{u, \dots, u'-1\}$, and note that $a \in K$. Since intersections and unions of σ -closed subsets are σ -closed, we conclude that $K = I \cap J_l$, $K_l = I_l$ and $K_r = J \cup J_r$ are σ -closed. Hence K is a σ -section, which contradicts $a \in K$ and the

minimality of I . Consequently, each $a \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ belongs to a σ -segment. Since distinct σ -segments are obviously disjoint by part (ii), part (i) follows.

Part (iii) is an evident consequence of parts (i) and (ii).

The “only if” direction of part (iv) is obvious since we can choose $\{J_1, \dots, J_t\} := \text{Seg}(\sigma)$. To prove the “if” direction, assume that there are σ -sections J_1, \dots, J_t described in part (iv). Let I be a non-empty σ -closed subset of $\{1, \dots, n\}$. For every $i \in \{1, \dots, t\}$, $I \cap J_i$ is σ -closed. Hence it is μ -closed since $\mu|_{J_i} \in \{\sigma|_{J_i}, (\sigma|_{J_i})^{-1}\}$. So $I = (I \cap J_1) \cup \dots \cup (I \cap J_t)$ is μ -closed. This implies that σ -sections are also μ -sections. In particular, J_1, \dots, J_t are μ -sections, which makes the role of σ and μ symmetric. Therefore, μ -sections are the same as σ -sections, and we conclude that $\text{Seg}(\sigma) = \text{Seg}(\mu)$.

Next, let $I \in \text{Seg}(\sigma) = \text{Seg}(\mu)$. Then there is an $i \in \{1, \dots, t\}$ such that $I \cap J_i$ is non-empty. Since $I \cap J_i$ is a σ -section by part (ii) and I is a minimal σ -section, $I \subseteq J_i$. Hence $\mu|_I = (\mu|_{J_i})|_I$ belongs to $\{\sigma|_I, (\sigma|_I)^{-1}\}$. Thus, $(\sigma, \mu) \in \mathcal{Q}_e^i$, proving part (iv).

Finally, part (v) is obvious. \square

Lemma 4.1 ([3, (14)+Cor. 22]). *Assume that $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, and let $\pi \in S_n$.*

- (i) *Then $(c_{i-1} \vee d_j, c_i \vee d_j) \in \beta_\pi$ iff $\pi(i) \leq j$. Similarly, $(c_i \vee d_{j-1}, c_i \vee d_j) \in \beta_\pi$ iff $\pi^{-1}(j) \leq i$.*
- (ii) *Equivalently, $(c_{i-1} \vee d_j, c_i \vee d_j) \in \beta_\pi$ iff $\text{cell}_\diamond(c_i \vee d_t) \in \pi^\bullet$ for some $t \in \{1, \dots, j\}$. Similarly, $(c_i \vee d_{j-1}, c_i \vee d_j) \in \beta_\pi$ iff $\text{cell}_\diamond(c_t \vee d_j) \in \pi^\bullet$ for some $t \in \{1, \dots, i\}$.*
- (iii) *In particular, $(c_{i-1}, c_i) \notin \beta_\pi$ and $(d_{j-1}, d_j) \notin \beta_\pi$.*

Lemma 4.2. *If $\pi \in S_n$, then $G/\beta_\pi \in \text{SlimSem}(n)$.*

Proof. Suppose that β_π is not cover-preserving. Then, by (2.2), there are $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that $\text{cell}_\diamond(c_i \vee d_j)$ is a β_π -forbidden 4-cell of G . By symmetry, we can assume that $(c_i \vee d_{j-1}, c_i \vee d_j) \in \beta_\pi$. By Lemma 4.1, $\pi^{-1}(j) \leq i$. Since $\text{cell}_\diamond(c_i \vee d_j)$ is β_π -forbidden, $(c_{i-1} \vee d_{j-1}, c_{i-1} \vee d_j) \notin \beta_\pi$. Using Lemma 4.1 again, we obtain that $\pi^{-1}(j) \not\leq i-1$. Hence $\pi^{-1}(j) = i$, that is $\pi(i) = j$. Again by Lemma 4.1, we infer that $(c_{i-1} \vee d_j, c_i \vee d_j) \in \beta_\pi$, which is a contradiction since $\text{cell}_\diamond(c_i \vee d_j)$ is a β_π -forbidden 4-cell. This proves that β_π is a cover-preserving join-congruence. Since quotient lattices of finite semimodular lattices modulo cover-preserving join-congruences are semimodular by G. Grätzer and E. Knapp [14, Lemma 16], it follows that G/β_π is semimodular. Obviously (see also [3, first paragraph of Section 2]), slimness is preserved under forming join-homomorphic images, whence G/β_π is slim. The rest of the proof is also based on Lemma 4.1. Since $c_{i-1}/\beta_\pi \neq c_i/\beta_\pi$, $d_{i-1}/\beta_\pi \neq d_i/\beta_\pi$, and β_π is cover-preserving,

$$(4.2) \quad 0/\beta_\pi = c_0/\beta_\pi \prec \dots \prec c_n/\beta_\pi, \quad 0/\beta_\pi = d_0/\beta_\pi \prec \dots \prec d_n/\beta_\pi.$$

It follows from $\pi^{-1}(j) \leq n$ that $(c_n \vee d_{j-1})/\beta_\pi = (c_n \vee d_j)/\beta_\pi$ for all $j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. By transitivity, $c_n/\beta_\pi = (c_n \vee d_0)/\beta_\pi = (c_n \vee d_n)/\beta_\pi = 1/\beta_\pi$. Hence $\text{length}(G/\beta_\pi) = n$, and $G/\beta_\pi \in \text{SlimSem}(n)$. \square

Lemma 4.3. *For every $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, $(c_k, d_k) \in \beta_\pi$ iff k is the largest element of $\text{Seg}(\pi, k)$.*

Proof. Assume that k is the largest element of $\text{Seg}(\pi, k)$. Using the notation (4.1), it follows that $\{1, \dots, k\} = \text{Seg}(\pi, k) \cup (\text{Seg}(\pi, k))_l$ is closed with respect to π and

π^{-1} . Hence, by Lemma 4.1, $(c_{i-1} \vee d_k, c_i \vee d_k) \in \beta_\pi$ and $(c_k \vee d_{j-1}, c_k \vee d_j) \in \beta_\pi$ for all $i, j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$. Thus, we conclude that $(c_k, d_k) = (c_k \vee d_0, c_0 \vee d_k) \in \beta_\pi$ by transitivity.

Conversely, assume that $(c_k, d_k) \in \beta_\pi$. Denote $\{1, \dots, k\}$ by I . Since d_k/β_π is a convex join-subsemilattice containing c_k and $c_k \vee d_k$, it follows from $d_k \leq c_{i-1} \vee d_k \leq c_i \vee d_k \leq c_k \vee d_k$ that $(c_{i-1} \vee d_k, c_i \vee d_k) \in \beta_\pi$ for all $i \in I$. This implies that $\pi(i) \in I$, for all $i \in I$, by Lemma 4.1. That is, I is a π -closed subset of $\{1, \dots, n\}$. Since then $I_r = \{1, \dots, n\} \setminus I$ and $I_l = \emptyset$ are also π -closed, I is a π -section. Hence k , the largest element of I , is the largest element of $\text{Seg}(\pi, k)$ by (i) and (iii) of Lemma 3.1. \square

Lemma 4.4. $\text{Bnd}(G/\beta_\pi) = \{c_i/\beta_\pi : i \in \{0, \dots, n\}\} \cup \{d_i/\beta_\pi : i \in \{0, \dots, n\}\}$.

Proof. Let $K := \{c_i/\beta_\pi : i \in \{0, \dots, n\}\} \cup \{d_i/\beta_\pi : i \in \{0, \dots, n\}\}$. The height of an element y , that is, the length of $[0, y]$, will be denoted by $h(y)$.

To show that $K \subseteq \text{Bnd}(G/\beta_\pi)$, we prove by induction on i that

$$(H_i) \quad c_i/\beta_\pi \in \text{Bnd}(G/\beta_\pi), \quad d_i/\beta_\pi \in \text{Bnd}(G/\beta_\pi).$$

Condition (H_0) is obvious. Assume that $0 < i \leq n$ and (H_{i-1}) holds. By symmetry, it suffices to show that $c_i/\beta_\pi \in \text{Bnd}(G/\beta_\pi)$. We can assume that $c_i/\beta_\pi \notin \text{Ji}(\text{Bnd}(G/\beta_\pi))$ since otherwise (1.4) applies. Hence, by (4.2), there exists an element $c_s \vee d_t \in G$ such that $c_{i-1}/\beta_\pi \parallel (c_s \vee d_t)/\beta_\pi < c_i/\beta_\pi$. Clearly, $s < i - 1$. Hence $c_i/\beta_\pi = c_{i-1}/\beta_\pi \vee (c_s \vee d_t)/\beta_\pi = c_{i-1}/\beta_\pi \vee d_t/\beta_\pi$. Suppose that t is minimal with respect to the property $c_i/\beta_\pi = c_{i-1}/\beta_\pi \vee d_t/\beta_\pi$. Clearly, $t \geq 1$. Let $x := c_{i-1} \vee d_{t-1}$. By the minimality of t , we obtain the inequalities $c_{i-1}/\beta_\pi \leq x/\beta_\pi = c_{i-1}/\beta_\pi \vee d_{t-1}/\beta_\pi < c_i/\beta_\pi$. Hence (4.2) yields that $x/\beta_\pi = c_{i-1}/\beta_\pi$.

Next, assume that $z \in G$ such that $c_{i-1}/\beta_\pi < z/\beta_\pi$. Then

$$z/\beta_\pi = z/\beta_\pi \vee c_{i-1}/\beta_\pi = z/\beta_\pi \vee x/\beta_\pi = (x \vee z)/\beta_\pi.$$

Since $x/\beta_\pi = c_{i-1}/\beta_\pi \neq (x \vee z)/\beta_\pi$, we obtain that $x < x \vee z$. Since $c_i \vee d_{t-1}$ and $c_{i-1} \vee d_t$ are the only covers of x , we conclude that $c_{i-1} \vee d_t \leq x \vee z$ or $c_i \vee d_{t-1} \leq x \vee z$. In the first case, $c_i/\beta_\pi = (c_{i-1} \vee d_t)/\beta_\pi \leq (x \vee z)/\beta_\pi = z/\beta_\pi$. In the second case, $c_i/\beta_\pi = c_i/\beta_\pi \vee c_{i-1}/\beta_\pi = c_i/\beta_\pi \vee x/\beta_\pi = (c_i \vee x)/\beta_\pi = (c_i \vee d_{t-1})/\beta_\pi \leq (x \vee z)/\beta_\pi = z/\beta_\pi$. This shows that c_i/β_π is the only cover of c_{i-1}/β_π . Take a diagram $(G/\beta_\pi)^* \in \text{Dgr}(G/\beta_\pi)$. By left-right symmetry and the induction hypothesis (H_{i-1}) , we can assume that $c_{i-1}/\beta_\pi \in \text{BC}_{\text{left}}((G/\beta_\pi)^*)$. We know that $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}((G/\beta_\pi)^*)$ is a maximal chain. Hence c_i/β_π , which is the only cover of c_{i-1}/β_π , belongs to $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}((G/\beta_\pi)^*)$. Thus, $c_i/\beta_\pi \in \text{Bnd}((G/\beta_\pi)^*) = \text{Bnd}(G/\beta_\pi)$, and (H_i) holds. Therefore, $K \subseteq \text{Bnd}(G/\beta_\pi)$.

To show the converse inclusion, let us assume that

$$x/\beta_\pi \in \text{Bnd}(G/\beta_\pi) = \text{BC}_{\text{left}}((G/\beta_\pi)^*) \cup \text{BC}_{\text{right}}((G/\beta_\pi)^*).$$

Let $x/\beta_\pi \in \text{BC}_{\text{left}}((G/\beta_\pi)^*)$; the other case is similar. Denote $h(x/\beta_\pi)$ by i . Assume first that x/β_π belongs also to $\text{BC}_{\text{right}}((G/\beta_\pi)^*)$. Then $x/\beta_\pi \in \text{Nar}(G/\beta_\pi)$. Hence x/β_π is comparable with c_i/β_π . But $h(c_i/\beta_\pi) = i = h(x/\beta_\pi)$ by (4.2), whence $x/\beta_\pi = c_i/\beta_\pi \in K$.

Secondly, we assume that $x/\beta_\pi \notin \text{BC}_{\text{right}}((G/\beta_\pi)^*)$. Let y/β_π be the unique element of $\text{BC}_{\text{right}}((G/\beta_\pi)^*)$ with height i . Then x/β_π and y/β_π are the only elements

of $\text{Bnd}(G/\beta_\pi)$ with height i , and they are distinct. Hence $\text{Nar}(G/\beta_\pi)$ has no element with height i . Clearly, $\text{Ji}(G/\beta_\pi) \subseteq K$. Hence $c_i/\beta_\pi \neq d_i/\beta_\pi$ since otherwise c_i/β_π would belong to $\text{Nar}(G/\beta_\pi)$ and it would be of height i by (4.2). So K has also two elements of height i , namely, c_i/β_π and d_i/β_π . Since $K \subseteq \text{Bnd}(G/\beta_\pi)$, we conclude that $\{c_i/\beta_\pi, d_i/\beta_\pi\} = \{x/\beta_\pi, y/\beta_\pi\}$. Hence $x/\beta_\pi \in \{c_i/\beta_\pi, d_i/\beta_\pi\} \subseteq K$, proving that $\text{Bnd}(G/\beta_\pi) \subseteq K$. \square

Lemma 4.5. *Assume that $I := \{u+1, \dots, v\}$ is a section of $\pi \in S_n$, and let $\sigma = \pi|_I$ be the restriction of π to I . Then the subdiagram $[c_u/\beta_\pi, c_v/\beta_\pi]^\diamond$ of $(G/\beta_\pi)^\diamond = \varphi_0(\pi)$ equals $\varphi_0(\sigma)$. Furthermore, c_u/β_π and c_v/β_π belong to $\text{Nar}(\varphi_0(\pi))$.*

Proof. Consider the interval $B := [c_u \vee d_u, c_v \vee d_v]$ of G . Then B is a square grid, a subgrid of G . We infer from Lemma 3.1(i) and (iii) that v is the largest element of v/\mathfrak{g}_e^i , and the same holds for u if $u > 0$. By Lemma 4.3, this yields that $c_u/\beta_\pi = d_u/\beta_\pi = (c_u \vee d_u)/\beta_\pi$ and $c_v/\beta_\pi = d_v/\beta_\pi = (c_v \vee d_v)/\beta_\pi$. Hence Lemma 4.4 implies the last sentence of Lemma 4.5. Each element $y/\beta_\pi \in [c_u/\beta_\pi, c_v/\beta_\pi]$ is of the form x/β_π for some $x \in B$ since

$$y/\beta_\pi = (y/\beta_\pi \vee (c_u \vee d_u)/\beta_\pi) \wedge (c_v \vee d_v)/\beta_\pi = ((y \vee c_u \vee d_u) \wedge (c_v \vee d_v))/\beta_\pi.$$

Hence, as in the Third Isomorphism Theorem in S. Burris and H.P. Sankappanavar [2, Thm. 6.18], it is straightforward to see that $[c_u/\beta_\pi, c_v/\beta_\pi]$ is isomorphic to $B/(\beta_\pi|_B)$ and $x/\beta_\pi \mapsto x/(\beta_\pi|_B)$ is an isomorphism. This yields that $[c_u/\beta_\pi, c_v/\beta_\pi]^\diamond = (B/(\beta_\pi|_B))^\diamond$. Hence it suffices to show that $\beta_\pi|_B = \beta_\sigma$. In fact, it suffices to show that $\beta_\pi|_B$ and β_σ collapse exactly the same prime intervals of B . But this is a straightforward consequence of Lemma 4.1. \square

Lemma 4.6. *Assume that $t \in \mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, \dots\}$, M is a slim semimodular lattice with $\text{Nar}(M) = \{0 = z_0 < z_1 < \dots < z_t = 1\}$, $M^* \in \text{Dgr } M$, and U and V are maximal chains in M such that $U \cup V = \text{Bnd}(M)$. Then the following four assertions hold.*

- (i) $\text{Nar}(M) = U \cap V$. In particular, $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(M^*) \cap \text{BC}_{\text{right}}(M^*) = \text{Nar}(M)$.
- (ii) If M is indecomposable, then $\{U, V\} = \{\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(M^*), \text{BC}_{\text{right}}(M^*)\}$.
- (iii) M has a planar diagram M^∇ such that $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(M^\nabla) = U$ and $\text{BC}_{\text{right}}(M^\nabla) = V$.
- (iv) All planar diagrams of M can be obtained from M^* in the following way. Take a subset H of $\{1, \dots, t\}$, reflect the interval $[z_{i-1}, z_i]^*$ of M^* vertically for all $i \in H$, and keep the other $[z_{i-1}, z_i]^*$ unchanged. Furthermore, each subset H of $\{1, \dots, t\}$ yields a member of $\text{Dgr } M$.

Proof. Suppose that $z \in U \cap V$. Then $z \in \text{Nar}(M)$ since z is comparable with all elements of $\text{Ji } M$ by (1.4). Conversely, since every element of $\text{Nar}(M)$ belongs to all maximal chains, $\text{Nar}(M) \subseteq U \cap V$. This proves (i).

Assume that M is indecomposable. For the elements of the boundary of M^* we use the notation introduced in (1.2). Since all chains of M are of the same length, we can write U and V in the form $\{0 = u_0 < u_1 < \dots < u_n = 1\}$ and $\{0 = v_0 < v_1 < \dots < v_n = 1\}$, respectively. By (1.3) and symmetry, we can assume that $u_1 = c_1$. We prove by induction on i that $u_i = c_i$ and $v_i = d_i$. The case $i \in \{0, 1, n\}$ is clear. Assume that $1 < i < n$, $u_{i-1} = c_{i-1}$, $v_{i-1} = d_{i-1}$ but, say $u_i \neq c_i$. By part (i), there are exactly two elements in $\text{Bnd}(M)$ whose height is i . Therefore, $u_i = d_i$, $v_i = c_i$ and $c_i \neq d_i$. Since distinct elements of the same height

are incomparable,

$$\begin{aligned} c_{i-1} &< c_{i-1} \vee d_{i-1} \leq (c_{i-1} \wedge u_{i-1}) \vee (v_{i-1} \wedge d_{i-1}) \\ &\leq (c_i \wedge u_i) \vee (v_i \wedge d_i) \leq (c_i \wedge d_i) \vee (c_i \wedge d_i) = c_i \wedge d_i < c_i. \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts that $c_{i-1} \prec c_i$, proving part (ii) of the statement.

Part (ii) trivially implies part (iii) in the particular case when M is indecomposable, that is, when $t \leq 1$. Otherwise, for $i = 1, \dots, t$, let $M_i = [z_{i-1}, z_i]$, $U_i := M_i \cap U$ and $V_i := M_i \cap V$. Applying the particular case to each $i \in \{1, \dots, t\}$, we obtain part (iii).

Finally, consider a diagram $M^\natural \in \text{Dgr } M$. Let $i \in \{1, \dots, t\}$. Since $[z_{i-1}, z_i]$ is clearly indecomposable, part (ii) implies that $[z_{i-1}, z_i]^\natural$ equals $[z_{i-1}, z_i]^*$ or we obtain $[z_{i-1}, z_i]^\natural$ from $[z_{i-1}, z_i]^*$ by a vertical reflection. This proves the first half of part (iv). The rest is evident. \square

Lemma 4.7. *Let γ be a cover-preserving join-congruence of the square grid G such that, for all $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, $(c_{i-1}, c_i) \notin \gamma$ and $(d_{i-1}, d_i) \notin \gamma$. Then $\gamma = \bigvee_{B \in \text{SC}(\gamma)} \boldsymbol{\vartheta}(B)$.*

Proof. Denote $\bigvee_{B \in \text{SC}(\gamma)} \boldsymbol{\vartheta}(B)$ by δ . It suffices to show that γ and δ collapses exactly the same covering pairs of G . Let $c_{i-1} \vee d_j \prec c_i \vee d_j$ be a covering pair. (The other case, $c_i \vee d_{j-1} \prec c_i \vee d_j$, is similar.) We know from [3, (14)+Cor. 22] that

$$(4.3) \quad (c_{i-1} \vee d_j, c_i \vee d_j) \in \delta \text{ iff } \text{cell}_\diamond(c_i \vee d_t) \in \text{SC}(\gamma) \text{ for some } t \in \{1, \dots, j\}.$$

Assume that $(c_{i-1} \vee d_j, c_i \vee d_j) \in \delta$. Then $\text{cell}_\diamond(c_i \vee d_t) \in \text{SC}(\gamma)$ for some $t \in \{1, \dots, j\}$ by (4.3), and $(c_{i-1} \vee d_j, c_i \vee d_j) \in \gamma$ follows obviously. Conversely, assume that $(c_{i-1} \vee d_j, c_i \vee d_j) \in \gamma$. Take the minimal t such that $(c_{i-1} \vee d_t, c_i \vee d_t) \in \gamma$. Clearly, $t \in \{1, \dots, j\}$. Since $\text{cell}_\diamond(c_i \vee d_t)$ cannot be a γ -forbidden 4-cell, it belongs to $\text{SC}(\gamma)$. By (4.3), this implies $(c_{i-1} \vee d_j, c_i \vee d_j) \in \delta$. \square

The next lemma uses the notation of Remark 3.6.

Lemma 4.8. *Let $\pi \in S_n$. Then $\text{SC}(\beta_\pi) = \pi^\bullet$.*

Proof. For $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, we say that $\{\text{cell}_\diamond(c_i \vee d_t) : t \in \{1, \dots, n\}\}$ is a row of 4-cells. Obviously, for every join-congruence α of G , every row contains at most one source cell of α . Hence $|\pi^\bullet| = n \geq |\text{SC}(\beta_\pi)|$. On the other hand, it is straightforward to infer from Lemma 4.1(ii) that $\pi^\bullet \subseteq \text{SC}(\beta_\pi)$. \square

Lemma 4.9. *φ_0 and ψ_0 are well-defined, and they are reciprocal bijections.*

Proof. We know from Lemma 4.2 that $G/\beta_\pi \in \text{SlimSem}(n)$. Therefore it follows from Lemma 4.6(iii) and Lemma 4.4 that $(G/\beta_\pi)^\diamond$ is well-defined. Consequently, φ_0 is a well-defined $S_n \rightarrow \text{SlimSem}(n)^*$ map. By Section 2 (for example, by Proposition 2.7 combined with Lemma 2.3 or Lemma 2.6), ψ_0 is a well-defined $\text{SlimSem}(n)^* \rightarrow S_n$ map.

Next, let $L^* \in \text{SlimSem}(n)^*$, and denote $(L^*)^{\text{lat}}$ by L . Since η from Definition 2.5 is surjective by (1.4), $L \cong G/\beta_{L^*}$, and $\tilde{\eta}: G/\beta_{L^*} \rightarrow L$, $x/\beta_{L^*} \mapsto \eta(x)$ is an isomorphism. Furthermore, $\pi := \pi_3 = \psi_0(L^*) = \pi_{L^*}$ is determined by $\text{SC}(\beta_{L^*})$. Combining the definition of φ_0 and Remark 3.7,

$$\beta_\pi = \bigvee_{i=1}^n \boldsymbol{\vartheta}(c_i \vee d_{\pi(i)}) = \bigvee \{\boldsymbol{\vartheta}(B) : B \in \pi^\bullet\} = \bigvee \{\boldsymbol{\vartheta}(B) : B \in \text{SC}(\beta_{L^*})\}.$$

Hence, by (2.3) and Lemma 4.7, $\beta_\pi = \beta_{L^*}$. Thus, $L \cong G/\beta_\pi$. Since $\tilde{\eta}(c_i/\beta_\pi) = \eta(c_i) = c_i$, we obtain that $\tilde{\eta}(\text{BC}_{\text{left}}((G/\beta_\pi)^\circ)) = \text{BC}_{\text{left}}(L^*)$. Similarly, we conclude that $\tilde{\eta}(\text{BC}_{\text{right}}((G/\beta_\pi)^\circ)) = \text{BC}_{\text{right}}(L^*)$, whence it follows that $\varphi_0(\psi_0(L^*)) = \varphi_0(\pi) = L^*$.

Next, let $\pi \in S_n$. Let G be the corresponding square grid of length $2n$. We use the notation introduced in (2.1). Let G/β_π , $(G/\beta_\pi)^\circ$, c_i/β_π , and d_j/β_π be denoted by L , L^* , c'_i , and d'_j , respectively. Observe that $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(L^*) = \{c'_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ and $\text{BC}_{\text{right}}(L^*) = \{d'_j : 1 \leq j \leq n\}$. Let G' be their direct product. We identify the lower left boundary and the lower right boundary of G' with $\text{BC}_{\text{left}}(L^*)$ and $\text{BC}_{\text{right}}(L^*)$, respectively. Hence $G' = \{c'_i \vee_{G'} d'_j : i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}\}$.

We have to consider the following three join-homomorphisms. Let $\gamma: G \rightarrow G'$, $c_i \vee_G d_j \mapsto c'_i \vee_{G'} d'_j$ be the first one. The second one is $\eta': G' \rightarrow L$, $c'_i \vee_{G'} d'_j \mapsto c'_i \vee_L d'_j = c_i/\beta_\pi \vee_L d_j/\beta_\pi = (c_i \vee_G d_j)/\beta_\pi$. Let $\eta := \eta' \circ \gamma$ be the third one, that is,

$$(4.4) \quad \eta: G \rightarrow L, \quad c_i \vee_G d_j \mapsto \eta'(\gamma(c_i \vee_G d_j)) = (c_i \vee_G d_j)/\beta_\pi.$$

According to Definition 2.5, π_{L^*} is defined by the kernel of η' . Since the notation of grid elements in Definition 2.5 is irrelevant and γ is an isomorphism, Definition 2.5 applied to η yields the same permutation. By (4.4), $\text{Ker } \eta$, the kernel of η , is β_π . Hence we obtain from Remark 3.7 that $\psi_0(L^*) = \pi_{L^*}$ is the unique permutation that satisfies the equation $(\psi_0(L^*))^\bullet = \text{SC}(\text{Ker } \eta) = \text{SC}(\beta_\pi)$. By Lemma 4.8, this is equivalent with $(\psi_0(L^*))^\bullet = \pi^\bullet$. Since π instead of $\psi_0(L^*)$ also satisfies this equation, we obtain that $\psi_0(L^*) = \pi$. Thus, $\pi = \psi_0(L^*) = \psi_0(\varphi_0(\pi))$. Therefore, φ_0 and ψ_0 are reciprocal bijections. \square

Proof of Theorem 3.3. Clearly, if $L_1, L_2 \in \text{SlimSem}(n)$ and $L_1 \cong L_2$, then $\text{Dgr } L_1 = \text{Dgr } L_2$. Hence, to show that ψ is well-defined, it suffices to consider two diagrams of the same lattice. Assume that $L \in \text{SlimSem}(n)$ and $L^*, L^\vee \in \text{Dgr } L$. Let $\text{Nar}(L) = \{0 = z_0 < z_1 < \dots < z_t = 1\}$, $t \in \mathbb{N}$. The height of z_i will be denoted by h_i . It follows trivially from Definition 2.2 or 2.1 that $I_i := \{h_{i-1} + 1, \dots, h_i\}$ is both a π_{L^*} -section and a π_{L^\vee} -section. By Lemma 4.5,

$$(4.5) \quad \pi_{L^*}[I_i] = \pi_{[z_{i-1}, z_i]^*}, \quad \pi_{L^\vee}[I_i] = \pi_{[z_{i-1}, z_i]^\vee}.$$

It follows from, say, Definition 2.1 that if we interchange the left and the right boundaries then we obtain the inverse permutation. For each $i \in \{1, \dots, t\}$, Lemma 4.6(iv) permits only two cases: $[z_{i-1}, z_i]^\vee$ is obtained from $[z_{i-1}, z_i]^*$ by a vertical reflection or $[z_{i-1}, z_i]^\vee = [z_{i-1}, z_i]^*$. In the first case, (4.5) implies $\pi_{L^\vee}[I_i] = (\pi_{L^*}[I_i])^{-1}$. In the second case, (4.5) yields that $\pi_{L^\vee}[I_i] = \pi_{L^*}[I_i]$. Therefore, $\pi_{L^\vee}[I_i] \in \{\pi_{L^*}[I_i], (\pi_{L^*}[I_i])^{-1}\}$ for $i = 1, \dots, t$. Consequently, we derive from Lemma 3.1(iv) that $(\psi_0(L^*), \psi_0(L^\vee)) = (\pi_{L^*}, \pi_{L^\vee}) \in \mathcal{D}_e^i$. Thus, ψ is a well-defined map.

Next, assume that $\pi, \sigma \in S_n$ such that $(\pi, \sigma) \in \mathcal{D}_e^i$. We know that π and σ have the same segments. Let $0 = j_0 < \dots < j_t = n$ such that $\text{Seg}(\pi) = \text{Seg}(\sigma) = \{\{j_{r-1} + 1, \dots, j_r\} : 1 \leq r \leq t\}$. Let $\mu \in \{\pi, \sigma\}$. Then

$$(4.6) \quad \text{Nar}(\varphi_0(\mu)) = \{c_{j_r}/\beta_\mu : 0 \leq r \leq t\}$$

by (4.2) and Lemmas 4.3 and 4.4. Consider an $r \in \{1, \dots, t\}$. For brevity, let $I = \{j_{r-1} + 1, \dots, j_r\}$, the r -th segment of π and σ . We know that $\sigma|_I \in \{\pi|_I, (\pi|_I)^{-1}\}$. We obtain from Lemma 4.5 that $([c_{j_{r-1}}/\beta_\mu, c_{j_r}/\beta_\mu])^\circ = \varphi_0(\mu|_I)$. Hence if $\sigma|_I = \pi|_I$,

then $([c_{j_{r-1}}/\beta_\pi, c_{j_r}/\beta_\pi])^\diamond = ([c_{j_{r-1}}/\beta_\sigma, c_{j_r}/\beta_\sigma])^\diamond$, implying that

$$(4.7) \quad [c_{j_{r-1}}/\beta_\pi, c_{j_r}/\beta_\pi] \cong [c_{j_{r-1}}/\beta_\sigma, c_{j_r}/\beta_\sigma].$$

Otherwise, assume that $\sigma|_I = (\pi|_I)^{-1}$. Therefore, when Definition 3.2(i) is applied to $\sigma|_I$ and $\pi|_I$, the role of the c_i and that of the d_i are interchanged. Consequently, $([c_{j_{r-1}}/\beta_\sigma, c_{j_r}/\beta_\sigma])^\diamond$ is obtained from $([c_{j_{r-1}}/\beta_\pi, c_{j_r}/\beta_\pi])^\diamond$ by a vertical reflection, and (4.7) holds again. From (4.7), applied for $r = 1, \dots, t$, and (4.6), we obtain that $(\varphi_0(\pi))^{\text{lat}} \cong (\varphi_0(\sigma))^{\text{lat}}$. Thus, φ is a well-defined map.

Finally, since φ_0 and ψ_0 are reciprocal bijections by Lemma 4.9, so are φ and ψ . \square

Proof of Corollary 3.5. As detailed in the Introduction, the second part of the statement is known. By Theorem 3.3, it suffices to show that for each $\pi \in S_n$ there exist a finite cyclic group G and composition series \vec{H} and \vec{K} of G such that the unique permutation σ associated with $(\text{Lat}(\vec{H}, \vec{K})^\delta)^\vee$, see Remark 2.8, equals π . Let p_1, \dots, p_n be distinct primes, and let G be the cyclic group of order $p_1 p_2 \dots p_n$. For $i = 1, \dots, n$, let H_i and K_i be the unique subgroup of order $p_1 \dots p_i$ and $p_{\pi^{-1}(1)} \dots p_{\pi^{-1}(i)}$, respectively. Then $|H_i/H_{i-1}| = p_i$ and $|K_j/K_{j-1}| = p_{\pi^{-1}(j)}$, for all $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. Since down-and-up projective quotients are isomorphic, $p_i = |H_i/H_{i-1}|$ equals $|K_{\sigma(i)}/K_{\sigma(i)-1}|$, which is $p_{\pi^{-1}(\sigma(i))}$. Hence $i = \pi^{-1}(\sigma(i))$, for all $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, and we conclude that $\sigma = \pi$. \square

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E-mail address: `czedli@math.u-szeged.hu`

URL: <http://www.math.u-szeged.hu/~czedli/>

UNIVERSITY OF SZEGED, BOLYAI INSTITUTE, SZEGED, ARADI VÉRTANÚK TERE 1, HUNGARY 6720

E-mail address: `schmidt@math.bme.hu`

URL: <http://www.math.bme.hu/~schmidt/>

MATHEMATICAL INSTITUTE OF THE BUDAPEST UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND ECONOMICS, MŰEGYETEM RKP. 3, H-1521 BUDAPEST, HUNGARY